



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

The Rt. Rev. C. Wallis Ohl, Jr., *Provisional Bishop of Fort Worth*

Pastoral Letter from the Rt. Rev. C. Wallis Ohl Provisional Bishop of Fort Worth To be read in all parishes on Sunday, October 31, 2010

Greetings in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

I am writing to you as your bishop to extend an invitation.

All of you know our diocese is in the process of rebuilding. This includes work in the spiritual, financial, legal and canonical areas of our common life.

Our spiritual and worship lives are healthy. As I travel around the diocese, I am discovering that we are making huge strides in mission and ministry. Additionally, there is healthy discussion of reconciliation going on simultaneously with parish plans for moving forward, even - and perhaps especially -- in those parishes worshipping in alternate spaces.

Our financial situation is healthy, something in which all of you can take pride. A major reason for this is that the leaders you have selected have put outreach first in our financial planning, not last. The generosity of this diocese is amazing, enough so that it has been noted at the highest levels of our church.

The reality of the litigation in which we are involved is acknowledged by all of you while at the same time being put in a proper context. In short, we are not letting our spiritual or missional lives be held hostage to litigation.

Underpinning our common life is the constitutional and canonical structure of The Episcopal Church and our diocese that allows us to move forward in confidence and mutual regard for one another.

All of these elements will come together at our 28th Annual Convention Nov. 19 and 20. And this is the invitation I am extending – come to the convention!

Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a parish delegate to attend. Convention is a time for our diocesan family to have a reunion, to greet old friends and make new ones. It is a chance to learn to new things. We are offering several workshops bringing information and ideas about

